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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTERPRETATION REPORT

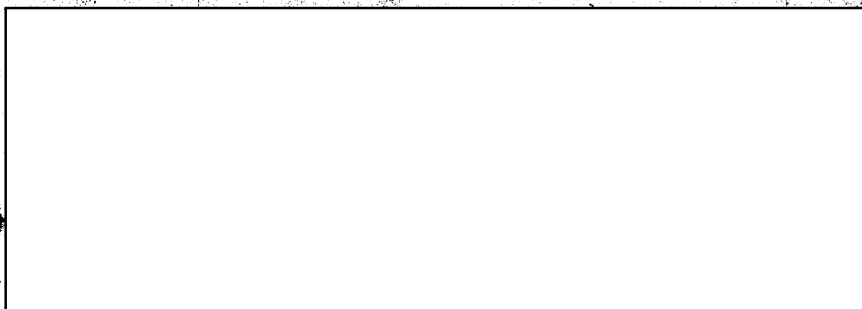
SARATOV IRBM COMPLEX, USSR LAUNCH AREA



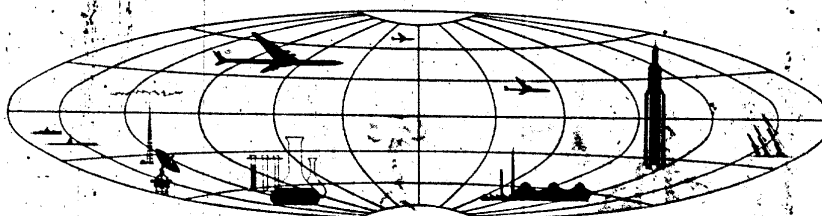
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GROUP 1
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SARATOV IRBM COMPLEX, USSR LAUNCH AREA

Saratov Launch Area (TID name: Bolshaya Kamenka Launch Site) -- Type IV 51-45-15N 45-41-00E

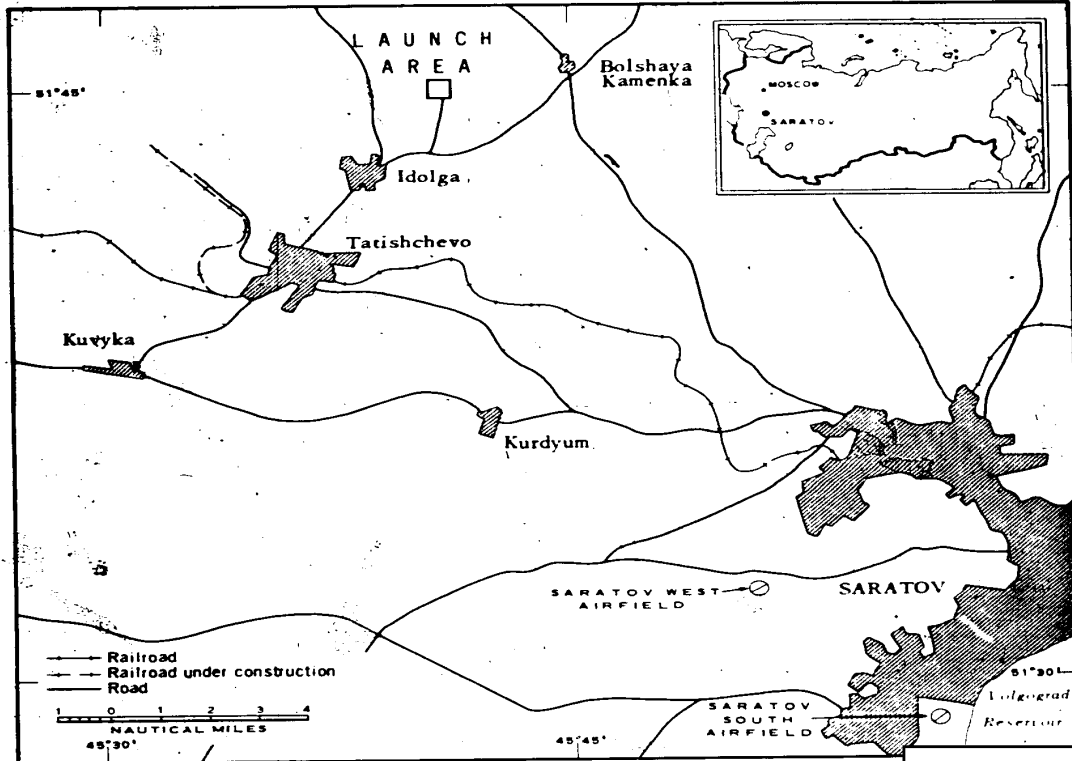


FIGURE 1. SARATOV IRBM COMPLEX, USSR.

The Saratov Launch Area is located in a forested tract on rolling terrain having an average elevation of 900 feet. This hard launch area, which is unique in that it is quite distant from the nearest Soviet border, is situated

2.5 nautical miles (nm) west-southwest of Bolshaya Kamenka and 18 nm northwest of Saratov (Figure 1). A service road from the launch area connects with a highway leading northeast to Bolshaya Kamenka and southwest

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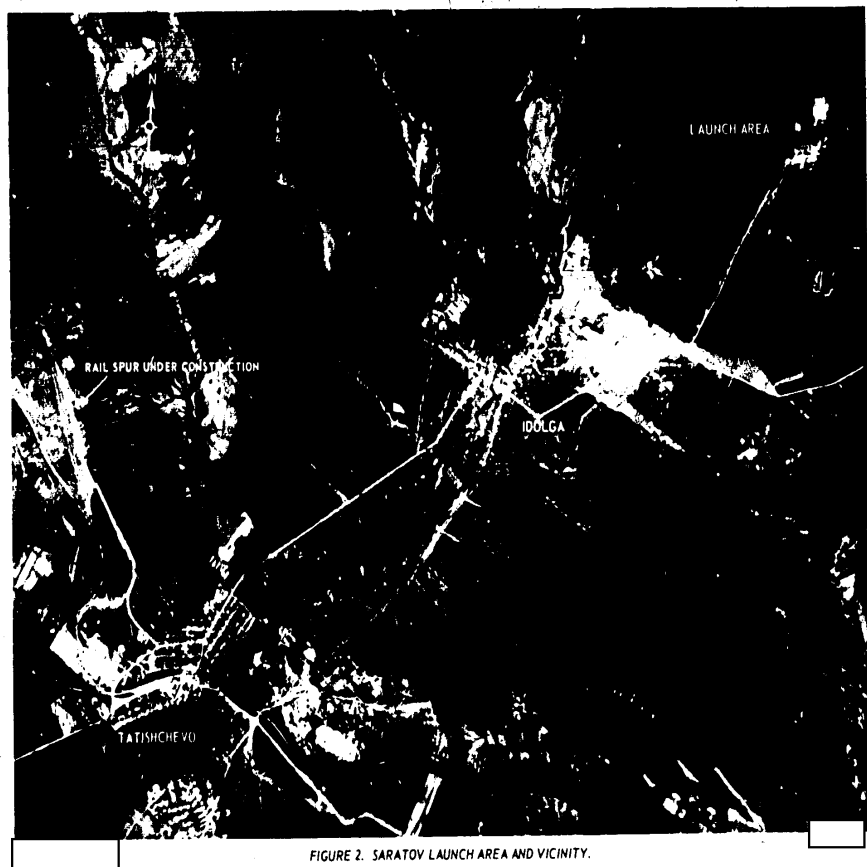


FIGURE 2. SARATOV LAUNCH AREA AND VICINITY.

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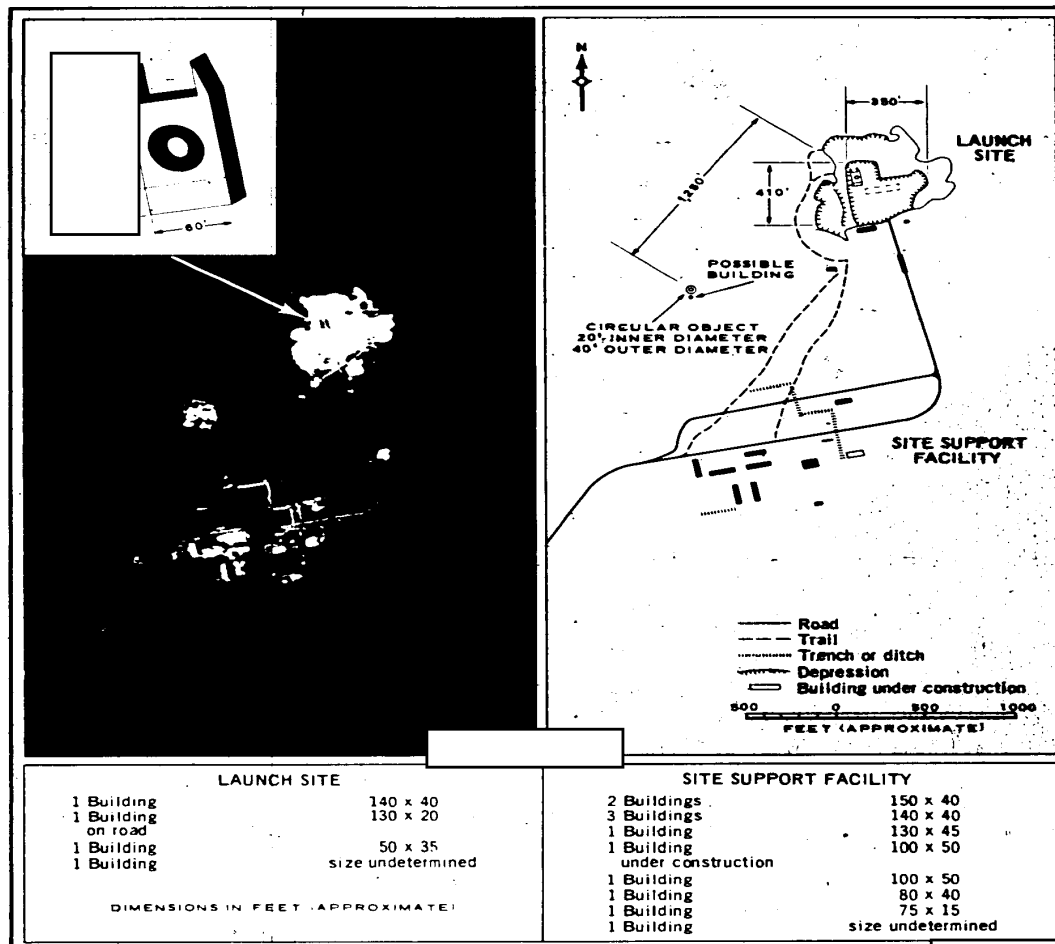
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to Tatishchevo, where rail connections are available. A roadbed for a rail spur (Figure 2) extends north-northwest from the town

of Tatishchevo and terminates in an uncultivated field. A road parallels its eastern side and four buildings are located near the end of



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the roadbed. This may, upon completion, serve as a rail-to-road transfer point for the hard launch area.

The launch area can be negated on [] photography of [] and was first observed on [] photography [] in a midstage of construction. Subsequent coverage of [] was hazy and of poor quality, and did not reveal any change in the appearance of the launch area.

The launch site (Figure 3) consists of a large L-shaped excavation with one silo position located in the northwest corner. The presence of the one nearly complete silo position and absence of any construction activity for the control building or other two silo positions constitutes a radical departure from the construction procedure noted at other hard-launch sites. The present excavation is sufficient to accommodate, in addition to the one silo position, a control bunker and rear silo position if the site is to have the typical IRBM site layout. However, additional excavating will be necessary in the northeast portion of the launch site to accommodate a third silo position. The silo position present in the excavation is almost

identical to those observed under construction at the Kalnik IRBM Launch Site. A faint rectangular outline discernible near the center of the excavation may be an indication that a base is being prepared for the erection of a control building. The site access road enters the site from the south and is correctly oriented in relation to the silo position and rectangular outline. To the south of the excavation are four buildings, one of which appears to straddle the access road.

Approximately 1,250 feet southwest of the launch site is an unidentified installation consisting of partially excavated generally rectangular area with a circular object and possible building. The circular object appears to be of concrete construction and to have an outer diameter of approximately 40 feet and an inner circular dark area 20 feet in diameter.

The site support facility is incomplete, containing five barracks-type buildings, one building under construction, and five miscellaneous buildings. An open trench or ditch connects some of the buildings and extends to the north of the building area proper. No security fence is discernible at either the support facility or launch site, nor are any vehicles discernible.

REFERENCES

MAPS OR CHARTS

SAC, US Air Target Chart, Series 200, Sheet 0235-2AL, 3d ed, Jan 64, Scale 1:200,000 (SECRET)

REQUIREMENT

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